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Appeals court reverses California gay marriage ban

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - A US federal appeals court struck down a California law yesterday that strips gays and lesbians of the right to marry, in the latest round in America's long-running battle over same-sex marriage.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a lower court judge's ruling that an amendment to the California state constitution banning same-sex marriage violated principles of due process and equal protection under the law.

Gay marriage was briefly authorized in California in 2008, but later banned by a referendum on what was known as Proposition 8, which rewrote the state's constitution to restrict marriage to unions

between a man and a woman.

Yesterday, the three-judge appeals panel in San Francisco ruled 2-1 that a lower court had properly declared the ban a violation of the US Constitution.

The ban had violated equality laws "to target a minority group and withdraw a right that it possessed, without a legitimate reason for doing so," Judge Stephen Reinhardt wrote in the majority opinion.

"Proposition 8 serves no purpose, and has no effect, other than to lessen the status and human dignity of gays and lesbians in California," the opinion said. "The constitution simply does not allow for laws of this sort."

Minister of Tourism & ATA unveil new tents to replace trailers on L.G. Smith Blvd

Minister of Tourism, Transport & Labor, Otmar Oduber, was joined by staffers of the Aruba Tourism Authority, ATA, and the Department of Public Works, DOW, in the formal introduction of the new canopies provided by the government which will be used during Carnival time, instead of the usual trailers put up by those who have won a place on L.G. Boulevard during the annual lottery.

Each year, it is a tradition for islanders to apply for and be awarded a space somewhere along the routes of the main parades, which includes the Vondellaan and L.G. Smith Boulevard from Talk of the Town Resort to the Wilhelmina Park, on which they could place a structure for shade, and many also set up barbecues and portable toilets. These are only awarded on the south side of L.G. Smith, next to the water. Any trailers or platforms seen on the north side of the street have been placed on private land.

Presently, the DOW is working steadily to complete the first phase of the Linear Park, and these trailers will provide a serious impediment towards that goal. It was originally intended to change the usual carnival route for this year to facilitate completion, but there was too much community resistance.

As a compromise, the government has obtained 121 sturdy and spacious canopies, which those lottery winners receiving a spot on the L.G.



Minister with Marlon Jacobs and DOW setting up tents in back.

Smith Boulevard are required to rent for the remainder of the Carnival season at a flat rate of 200 Aruban florins; the initial fee for a space is also 200 florins, bring the total to 400 Aruban florins for tent and place.

Marlon Jacobs, Project Director for DOW explained the advantages of the new system; first and foremost, the canopies will cost individuals and families far less than the cost of setting up and decorating a trailer, as well as saving the time spent to do so. They are spacious and provide plenty of room for chairs, cool-

ers and barbecues. Also, DOW teams will do all the setting up, and more importantly, breaking down, so within a day after the final carnival, event L.G. Smith Boulevard will be cleared and back to normal, rather than have stray trailers still cluttering up this important thoroughfare sometimes for weeks after carnival has passed; this is a viable solution to something that has always been an issue in the past. The new system will also no longer interrupt the flow of traffic during the placement and removal of trailers.

Continued on page 4

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Santorum surges as Republicans hold three votes

Dark horse Rick Santorum enjoyed a rare surge yesterday as Republicans voted in three more state contests, but was unlikely to knock Mitt Romney out of the presidential frontrunner saddle.

Caucuses were being held in Colorado and Minnesota, with a third contest in Missouri, as the candidates eye a long slog through February, in the battle to be crowned the Republican Party's 2012 presidential nominee.

With three victories in the state-by-state contests already under his belt, Romney is widely seen as the man to beat

-- despite lingering doubts about the former Massachusetts governor's conservative credentials.

Should Santorum manage to break through on Tuesday, he could reaffirm himself as the best conservative alternative to Romney, outpacing former House speaker Newt Gingrich, whose campaign has slumped in recent weeks.

All three are battling for the right to take on Democratic President Barack Obama in November's election -- with the final decision to be made in August at the party's convention in Tampa, Florida.

US to send second ship to bolster the Philippines

WASHINGTON, February 7, 2012 (AFP) - The United States will soon give a second Coast Guard cutter to the Philippines as part of efforts to boost the ally's military amid tensions at sea with China, officials said yesterday.

The United States last year transferred its Hamilton cutter to the Philippines, which made it the flagship of its notoriously dilapidated navy and recently sent it on a mission to the disputed Spratly islands.

Lawmakers will this week conclude formalities to send to the former US colony another

cutter, the Dallas, Representative Ed Royce and senior Pentagon official Peter Lavoy told a congressional hearing.

"It should soon be on its way to Manila," said Royce, a Republican from southern California.

The Philippines and other Southeast Asian countries have accused China of bellicose behavior over disputes in the South China Sea. Despite historical sensitivities about US troops, the Philippines has said it would welcome further rotations by US forces on its soil and more joint exercises

PALMARUBA may be just what you are looking for...



**PalmAruba Managing
Director Victor Acosta**

"Sometimes I felt just like Goldilocks and The Three Bears," confided an island visitor of their search for the perfect condominium property on Aruba. "We found one property was either too big or another too small; we were really looking for something in the right area that gave us a sense of community, but had a bit more of a resort feel we like -we are still looking."

Perhaps this couple, and many like them, seeking that ideal condominium facility should stop by the offices of PALMARUBA to learn about the exciting new project that is like Momma Bear- a comfortable fit that is "just right."

The project is the dream of veteran real estate developer Victor Acosta, well known to owners at Palma Real, Oceania, and Montana Plaza, all very popular projects that saw successful completion. Victor has done both big and small, and it has long been his dream to create small to mid-size project he noticed many potential clients were seeking; from his experience he also has noticed such a complex would be much more efficient to run.

PALMARUBA has a superior location in the heart of Palm

Beach, with sufficient distance to create a tranquil oasis away from the hustle and bustle of the main strip, but close enough to all the action that a pleasant stroll allows residents to avail themselves of all the casinos and amenities and of course, Aruba's best beaches. When completed, PALMARUBA will provide shuttle service to the beach (and airport) for its owners and their guests, several times a day.

Actually, all amenities of PALMARUBA, the pool, Jacuzzi, fitness room, restaurant, tennis court, game room, concierge services and 24/7 security will all come online along with the opening of the facility, as it is Victor's intention to only open when

dining and nightlife, but all anyone who is living here needs in the way of shopping and services, less than 5 minutes walk away."

During the planning, rising energy costs were kept in mind, and the PalmAruba complex will make as much use of renewable energy technology as possible, thus reducing utility costs for their condo owners.

The spacious, affordable units range from a 1 bedroom/bath of 76 sq meters to luxurious 3 bed/bath penthouses of 224 sq meters. For those that are seeking something truly unique, check out the "Sugar Palm" design with an extra bed and bath in a duplex loft. The project will boast 5 floors, offering spectacular views of the sea and shore from the upper level terraces. Other vital services, such as



everything is ready. "I have seen those who bought in first to various projects have to suffer with the noise and inconvenience of constant construction," explains Victor of his plan, "and I do not want that for our clients. Because we will only offer 76 units we will complete the entire project by the end of 2014 and present it to our owners as a fait accompli, so they may fully enjoy the promised rest and relaxation that was why they purchased in the first place. We are particularly pleased with this Palm Beach location as the area has built up over the past few years to not only offer Aruba's best

maid, babysitting and catering for special parties, as well as rental of the condo when not in use, can be arranged through the PALMARUBA Management services.

So if you are looking for that perfect fit, one that is not too small or too large, as well as an experienced developer with a track record you can trust, then pay a visit to the PALMARUBA offices next to the Palm Beach gas station. Call them at 586-7300 for an appointment to learn of their excellent pre-construction prices. You can also visit them at: www.palaruba.com or follow them on Facebook or Twitter.

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Aruba Government complying with international security

ORANJESTAD -- In compliance with requirements for international security, the government has instituted a new department – “Inspectie Beveiliging Scheepvaart en Luchtvaart,” (Inspection for the Safeguarding of Shipping and Aviation).

After the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack in the US, security measures worldwide have been revised and various changes have been made. In particular, the United States have insisted on high standards of security. An international treaty known as the ISPS Code has been enacted and Aruba has become a part of this treaty.

The ISPS Code is the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code, which is a series of extensive measures to improve on the security of ships and port facilities. This code helps to determine which security measures are appropriate and must be realized in the assessment of risk in each particular situation. The purpose of the code is to offer a standardized framework to evaluate risks. The purpose of the Code is also to allow go-

vernments to make changes in the event of threats and vulnerability with respect to the security of ships and port facilities.

As part of the Dutch Kingdom, Aruba is obliged to adhere to the international rules and treaties on the area of maritime and air security. With respect to air security, this treaty has been in effect since 1944, while the maritime treaty has been effective since 1974.

Since 9/11 these treaties have become much more intense and strict with more stringent requirements for both maritime and air security, and especially for ships and aircrafts. In order to comply with these requirements Aruba instituted, back in 2004, an ordinance called the Scheep en Luchtvaartbeveiligingverordening (Ship and aviation security ordinance).

Both our airport and wharfs must comply with a series of established security measures. Aruba has thus implemented different necessary security measures. However, the US Coast Guard, which is the entity appointed to effect controls in our area, has frequently indicated that Aruba has not cre-

ated a specific entity with the task of supervising the compliance of these laws of international security.

It is in that context that the government of Aruba, in compliance with this requirement, has instituted this new department – Inspectie Beveiliging Scheepvaart en Luchtvaart (IBSL). This new department was instituted last year. While the department is not yet completely operational it has nonetheless become functional. Head of the new department is Doti Quant with a staff of 5 persons under his leadership.

The primary task of IBSL is to ensure that there is compliance of all laws regarding International security. They must make certain that our ports have an approved security plan that it is adhered to by all parties.

According to the government, Aruba's level of port security is extremely high, and with the institution of this new department they are being reinforced even more and are complying with all important international security measures.

Change in Oil product prices

ORANJESTAD – The Ministry of Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs announces to the general public that as of today, Wednesday, February 8, 2012, there will be changes in different oil product prices.

- The new price for unleaded-premium gas will be 229.9 cent per liter, an increase of 10.5 cent

- The new price for diesel LS will be 209.4 cent per liter, an increase of 7.7 cent.

- The new price for kerosin will be 205,6 cent per liter, an increase of 10.4 cent

The Ministry of Economic, Cultural and Social



Affairs informs that it has maintained the reduction of the excise tariffs; this to absorb the increase of oil price for the period of May 2007. In the new prices the BBO is already included.

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Minister of Tourism & ATA unveil new tents . . .

Continued from page 1



Mr. Jacobs explained that DOW will also provide the sand-filled barrels to anchor the canopies, but renters are responsible for preventing any damage to them, and will be held accountable for such. Renters are asked to be conscientious in providing in controlling and disposing of their rubbish. DOW will place 36 chemical toilets in groups at around 6 points along the route, for public use.

Minister Oduber and Mandy Lopez, Communications and P/R Manager of the ATA, explained that each of the canopies will be decorated with the Aruba brand logo, and this arrangement will present a

uniform and attractive sight to island visitors upon their arrival over the next few weeks, with a favorable and pleasing first impression of Aruba-a principal purpose of the Linear Park. It is understood that change, particularly to the established traditions of 58 carnivals, is often difficult, but the use of the canopies has a great many advantages over trailers, for the community and individuals using them, both in appearance and cost to the renters; on the Vondellaan the traditional system of trailers will still be deployed.

by Rosalie Klein

Aruba Lions Club celebrated traditional "Charter Night"



Dede Ruiz



Honoring Benky Fowler



Dede Ruiz, Benky Fowler and Daniel Clement with Aruba Lions Club President Claret Lopez



Daniel Clement

Just recently the Aruba Marriott Resort Ballroom was filled with members and friends of the Aruba Lions Club for their annual traditional "Charter Night" celebration. For this year's occasion they invited Dr. Lucy Young to speak on the subject of Diabetes and the Loss of Eyesight.

The theme of the event was "Diabetic Explosion," which portrayed a reality that the members of this service organization were not aware of. Young focused on the disease of diabetes and its accompanying problem of the loss of eyesight.

Members of the Aruba Lions Club work diligently



every year to raise funds that they give back to the community as donations for various worthy causes. With the valuable information received from Dr. Young, it is expected that Lions Club will explore ways in which they can help our community with the prevention of diabetes.

During the evening's cele-

bration the Club also took time to honor three of its members who together have given 100 years of dedication and service to lionism on Aruba with the Aruba Lions Club. The three members are: Eduard "Benky" Fowler who celebrated 45 years as a member of the Aruba Lions Club, Modesto "Dede" Ruiz with 35 years as a member of the Club, and Daniel Clement with 20 years of service to the organization. Modesto "Dede" Ruiz was also recipient of another honor for his faithful and perfect attendance to all meetings and events of the Aruba Lions Club during the 35 years of his membership.

The Aruba Lions Club has been existing for the past 64 years on Aruba and has developed the reputation of being a very active body providing excellent assistance to projects for the community. Annually, the Club generates about 1 million Aruban florins which goes right back to the community to help a long list of organizations and institutions in need of support and assistance.

The Morning News congratulates Aruba Lions Club for their excellent community work!

by Rosalie Klein

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Definitely worth exploring: the new Yves Rocher shop in the Renaissance Mall



Affordably priced signature scents

Island media had a very pleasant surprise on Tuesday morning as they were invited by owners Uri and Edeline Croes to sniff and sample the wealth of fragrances, make-up and skin care products produced by Yves Rocher, the most popular brand in France.

Yves Rocher offer unique products from a company that has chosen to master every aspect of its operations: agriculture, botanical and scientific research on plants, developing innovative active ingredients, formulas, supplying raw materials, manufacturing, packaging, shipping and distribution

around the world.

It was 50 years ago, in the attic of his family's home, in the heart of Bretagne, France, that "Yves Rocher created Botanical Beauty, based on the treasures of the botanical world and its infinite potential." From the very beginning, he insisted on controlling every step of the production cycle in order to guarantee the quality, effectiveness and appeal.

Renowned in 80 countries, Yves Rocher products are now directly available for the first time in the Caribbean and Aruba and the Renaissance Mall is host to their flagship



Shop Owners Edeline and Uri Croes

store. The company offers over 900 products; the new shop now carries around 400, with plans to expand their inventory.

There are several lines of unisex bath and skin care items, and some enchanting colognes that are gender oriented. An entire section is dedicated to specialized facial products, developed to be age-appropriate and addressing the differing needs a woman faces from her twenties to later life.

Pure, natural ingredients organically-grown and harvested from the Yves Rocher family

orchards are not only the principal ingredients of their products, but the foundation of their philosophy and approach to beauty. Each year, close to 30 new botanical active ingredients are developed and tested. Since 1959, more than 50 patent families

cial holiday offer: purchase 3 different items from the Pleasures of Nature line-Shower Gel, Body Lotion and Body Scrub, and receive an attractive Yves Rocher log tote. You can complete the scent ensemble with a refreshing body mist, and there are half dozen delicious fragrances from which to choose.

A number of those attending the opening were quite familiar and enthusiastic about the Yves Rocher brand; it is safe to say that those who were not, would soon be joining their ranks.

by Rosalie Klein

have been filed.

The results offer a wealth of pleasing products to choose from that are quite moderately priced and some items substantially less than they sell for online; just in time for Valentine's Day shopping! The store has a spe-



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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Ice-breakers battle Europe's big chill

BELGRADE (AFP) - Ice-breakers yesterday battled Europe's big chill as the Danube river froze over more than 100 miles (170 kilometers), and dozens died of cold on a continent gripped by some of the lowest temperatures in decades.

The overall death toll from the cold snap that began 11 days ago topped 400 while forecasters warned there would be no early let-up to the freezing weather.

In Serbia, ice-breakers were summoned from Hungary in an attempt to keep the Danube flowing, while army demolition experts sought to dynamite ice barriers that threatened to provoke flooding on tributary rivers.

The Danube, one of Europe's main rivers, was barely navigable around Belgrade and the port authority in Veliko Gradiste, near the Romanian and Bulgarian border, said river traffic was blocked along a 170-kilometre stretch.

In Bulgaria the Danube exploration agency said icing was at 20 percent near the Serbian border and up to 80 percent along a 220-kilometre stretch between the ports of Nikopol and Silistra further down river.

Navigation was impossible,



A man stands walks past a car destroyed by falling branches in the flooded village of Biser on February 7, 2012. Snowstorms lashed Bulgaria yesterday, a day after eight people drowned in raging rivers and the icy waters from a broken dam that submerged a whole village to the southeast, officials said. The snow hindered the relief effort in the obliterated village of Biser, where a family of two was still missing in the dam disaster that swept houses under 2.5 meters (eight feet) of icy water, uprooted trees and drowned scores of livestock. (AFP PHOTO)

bia reporting 70,000 people trapped in villages in the south of the country. The army and rescue services attempted to get food and medicine to hundreds of Croatian villages blocked by snow.

Large parts of Bosnia were also cut off by the snow and avalanches. Authorities have lost touch since Friday with the hamlet of Zijemlje, some 30 kilometers from the southern

Poland rose to 68 after the authorities there recorded another six deaths in the past 24 hours.

The coldest place overnight was the Kvilda region of the Czech Republic where the mercury plunged to minus 39.4 degrees Celsius (-38.9 Fahrenheit). The UN weather service said temperatures would remain low until March.

In France, electricity consumption reached a historic high yesterday, the RTE power-grid company said.

In the Netherlands, a 55-year-old man drowned when ice gave way in Rijpwetering, in the west of the country.

Snow also kept falling in northern Italy, with temperatures dropping to minus 25 degrees Celsius on the shores of Lake Garda. In the town of L'Aquila snowed-in residents warned of wolves scavenged in the deserted streets of the nearby village of Trasacco.

Meanwhile, the Russian Gazprom company yesterday said it was unable to meet a spike in requests for gas brought on by the cold, noting that demand has increased by 50 percent.

town of Mostar.

The Ukraine remained the country worst affected, with the death toll at 136, while the numbers killed by hypothermia in



the agency said, adding that the Danube delta leading into the Black Sea in Romania was completely frozen.

Meanwhile, snow blanketed much of the Balkans with Ser-

FBI sees rising threat from 'sovereign citizen' movement

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The FBI said yesterday it is monitoring a growing extremist threat from "sovereign citizen" movements, and is targeting their activities to prevent a repeat of the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing.

Followers of "sovereign citizen" ideologies reject all government authority, refusing to pay taxes, not recognizing US currency, and sometimes engaging in acts of violence, FBI officials told reporters.

"They could be lone wolves, too," said Stuart McArthur, deputy assistant director of the FBI's counter-terrorism division, who said it was the agency's mission to "deter and detect" potential acts of "catastrophic violence."

The worst act of domestic terrorism in US history was the Oklahoma City bombing on April 19, 1995, which claimed the lives of 168 people and left a federal office building in ruins.

Its main perpetrator, Timothy McVeigh, was sentenced to death and executed in 2001.

The FBI said the "sovereign citizen" militants are distinguishable from other ultra-right extremists by their use of homemade license plates, documents and diplomatic credentials.

"The ideology itself promotes violence and encourages violence," said special agent Casey Carty, who said the FBI had a duty to be proactive in dealing with the potential threat.

Journalists ordered to pay Ecuador president \$2 mn

QUITO (AFP) - An Ecuadoran court has ordered two journalists to pay President Rafael Correa \$2 million in damages in the latest high-profile court case testing freedom of expression in the South American nation.

Journalists Juan Carlos Calderon and Christian Zurita were ordered to pay the president \$1 million each by a criminal court in the province of Pichincha for his "pain and suffering," defense lawyer Ramiro Aguilar said yesterday.

The two journalists wrote the book "El Gran Hermano" ("Big Brother"), which describes contracts the state awarded the president's brother, Fabricio Correa, worth a total of \$167 million.

Correa denies he knew of these deals ahead of time and said he moved to stop the contracts once he learned of them. The president sued, seeking \$10 million, in his latest offensive against what he calls a "corrupt" news media.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Death toll in Dominican migrant boat wreck at 21

SANTO DOMINGO (AFP) - The number of fatalities from the shipwreck of a vessel loaded with undocumented migrants en route to Puerto Rico has reached 21, officials here said yesterday.

Saturday's accident off Sabana de la Mar, located 155 kilometers (95 miles) northeast of the capital Santo Domingo, is one of the worst in memory in this Caribbean nation, which shares the island of Hispaniola

with Haiti.

Officials said 19 people are known to have survived the accident in which the boat was swamped by heavy waves in rough weather.

The vessel is believed to have held 70 people, but officials said they believed the remaining passengers were able to reach land because the accident occurred close to the shoreline. Other survivors likely were aided by area fishermen.



JAPAN, Miyako : This combo shows an image (top) taken by a Miyako City official on March 11, 2011 of the tsunami breaching an embankment and flowing into the city of Miyako in Iwate prefecture and the same area (bottom image) on January 16, 2012 nearly one year after the March 11 tsunami devastated the area. March 11, 2012 will mark the first anniversary of the massive tsunami that pummelled Japan, claiming more than 19,000 lives. (AFP PHOTO)

Catholic leaders ask forgiveness for child abuse

VATICAN CITY (AFP) - Catholic leaders asked God for forgiveness for the crimes of paedophile priests at a church service yesterday after an Irish victim said the Vatican should be held accountable for destroying lives.

The heads of seven religious orders intoned penitential prayers in a church in Rome on the sidelines of a first-ever Vatican summit to look at ways of rooting out child abuse from the Church after thousands of scandals.

"We have sinned. We did not know how to listen to the

pain of so many innocent ones," one of the bishops taking part in the service said.

"We are aware that our acts of reparation can never erase the unjust things we have done or soothe the searing wound of our consciousness," he said.

Victim Marie Collins earlier told the conference at the Vatican's Gregorian University: "Apologising for the actions of the abusive priests is not enough.

"There must be acknowledgement and accountability for the harm and destruction that has been done to the life of victims and their families by the often deliberate cover up and mishandling of cases by their superiors."

Collins said her abuse happened at the hands of a hospital chaplain when she was just 13. "Those fingers that would abuse my body the night before were the next morning holding and offering me the sacred host," said the 64-year-old.

Her denunciations were long ignored by the Catholic hierarchy and she has suffered from depression for most of her life as a result, but Collins has since become a leading voice in Ireland pushing for justice for victims.

The four-day conference

opened on Monday with a message from Pope Benedict XVI urging "profound renewal of the Church at every level" and calling for "a vigorous culture of effective safeguarding and victim support."

The meeting brings together 100 representatives of national bishops' conferences, the leaders of 33 religious orders and the Vatican's top anti-abuse prosecutor Charles Scicluna, as well as lay experts on the issue.

Collins was the only abuse victim to have been invited and victims' groups have dismissed the conference as "a public relations exercise". She said she struggled with the decision to attend after years of conflict with the Church.

US archbishop Stephen Rossetti also addressed the conference yesterday, listing mistakes made by the Church in dealing with abuse, such as being manipulated by offenders and believing perpetrators could easily be cured.

"It is time to pro-actively and aggressively root out this evil from our society. You and I must begin this task by exorcising it from our own midst... Child molesters must know they have no safe sanctuary in the Church," he said.

German authorities bust giant phone fraud scheme

FRANKFURT (AFP) - German prosecutors yesterday reported the arrest of eight people accused of swindling at least 1.6 million euros (\$2.1 million) in a telephone fraud scheme spanning several European countries.

Sixty-one raids, involving about 1,000 police officers, were conducted in Germany, Switzerland and Austria, the Frankfurt prosecutor's office said. The kingpin of the network, alleged to have defrauded at least 100,000 people -- most of them elderly -- was 31 years old. The other suspects are aged between 26 and 58.

The victims were contacted from call centers in the Kosovo capital Pristina and the Bulgarian capital Sofia and told they had won free fuel and cosmetic coupons.

After a barrage of questions and partial recordings to indicate the consent of the respondents to make a token payment on the telephone, the money raised was then sent to a firm controlled by the gang.



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Health & Living

US boosts funding for Alzheimer's research

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The administration of US President Barack Obama announced on Tuesday it will boost funding for research into Alzheimer's disease by \$130 million, a 25 percent increase over the next two years.

Leading health officials said an extra \$50 million would be made available immediately for cutting-edge Alzheimer's research and that the fiscal year 2013 budget to be released next week would boost such funding by \$80 million.

An additional \$26 million will also be allocated to "care-giver support, provider education, public awareness and improvements in data infrastructure," officials said.

Some 5.1 million Americans currently suffer from Alzheimer's disease, a degenerative brain disorder for which there is no cure.

Due to the aging population, the number of people with Alzheimer's disease in the United States is projected to more than double by 2050.

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Francis Collins told reporters that important clues about Alzheimer's have been uncovered over the past 40 years, but progress toward eliminating the disease has

been difficult.

Collins described recent advances in research, including an NIH-funded study on mice released last week month that showed Alzheimer's starts in one part of the brain in the memory center and progressively moves on to infect other parts.

NIH spends about \$450 million a year on Alzheimer's research at present.

The new funds will be directed toward basic and clinical research, identifying genes that raise the risk of Alzheimer's disease and testing therapies in people at high risk for the disease, officials said.

Funds may also help speed new clinical trials on treatment approaches and help develop better national databases on the extent of cognitive impairment and dementia.

Last month, Obama signed the National Alzheimer's Project Act which urges a country-wide plan against the disease with the goal of preventing it and curing it by 2025.

Experts said the effort is particularly crucial in the United States, where the proportion of older people is on the rise with 9,000 people turning 65 every day.

Anti-cancer drug for women weakens bone density

PARIS (AFP) - A drug tipped for widespread use to prevent breast cancer in post-menopausal women also accelerates loss of bone density, thus potentially boosting the risk of fractures, a study said.

Exemestane -- brand name Aromasin -- is part of a drug class called aromatase inhibitors, which lower levels of the oestrogen that some breast cancers need in order to grow.

Canadian bone specialists took a look at a group of patients who had taken part in a study into the effectiveness of exemestane among 4,500 healthy women with a worrying family history of breast cancer.

Overall, the big study showed that the drug was highly effective, reducing the risk of breast cancer by almost two-thirds.

The bone sub-study looked at 351 women who had been taking either exemestane or a dummy lookalike pill and

whose bone density was measured with hi-tech scanners.

After two years, women taking exemestane had a high loss of bone density at a common fracture point in the wrist called the distal radius, and also at the lower end of the tibia, compared with their counterparts on placebo.

The exemestane users also had an eight-percent decline in the thickness of cortical bone, which comprises the protective outer shell of the bones.

That finding in particular is worrying because nearly four out of every five fractures in old age occur in cortical bone. These accidents are a huge source of disability.

"For women taking exemestane, regular bone monitoring plus adequate calcium and vitamin D supplementation are important."

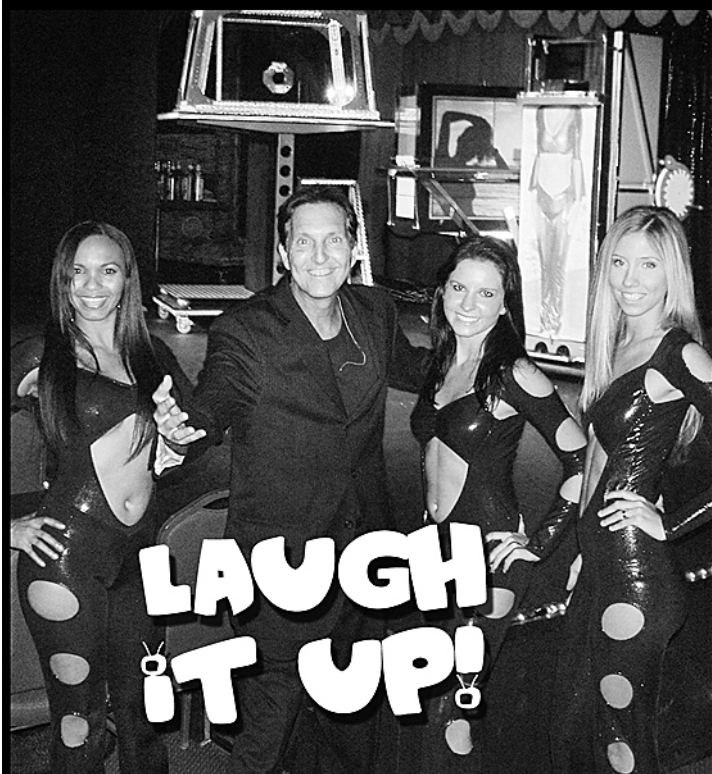
The paper is published online by the journal The Lancet Oncology.

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Battle of the smartphones

Apple's iPhone hot in 2011 but demand for Android-powered handsets grows

Smartphone market share, %
By shipment volumes, 4th quarter 2011

Apple
Operating system: iOS
23.5
Y-o-y growth, %
128.4

Samsung
Android
22.8

Nokia
Symbian
12.4

Blackberry
(Research in Motion)
Blackberry OS
8.2

HTC
Android
6.5

Others
26.6

Source: IDC

AFP

Sci-Tech

Scientists cautious over Russia's Antarctic lake drilling

PARIS (AFP) - Experts raised questions over the scientific benefit and environmental impact of Russia's feat in drilling into a virgin lake under Antarctica's icesheet.

Kerosene, which the Russians used as antifreeze to prevent the borehole from closing up in the extremely cold depths of the icesheet, was a potential contamination risk for samples and for the pristine lake itself, they said.

Professor Martin Siegert, head of the school of geosciences at the University of Edinburgh, said these concerns marred "a milestone... a major achievement" by Russia in drilling through to Lake Vostok.

But, he added in a phone

interview, "It's very difficult for them to convince (others) that their experiment is going to be clean, when you have essentially two miles (3.5 kilometres) of kerosene to cross before you get to the lake surface."

The lake, lying at a depth of 3,768 metres (12,246 feet), has lain untouched for possibly a million years, he said.

Sub-glacial lakes are extreme environments. The hope is that samples will show whether microbial life could exist in water suspected to lie beneath the frozen surface of Mars, the Saturnian moon of Enceladus and Jupiter's satellite, Europa.

But Siegert cautioned that

only recovering water from the top of the Lake Vostok would give no indication about the "water column," meaning the enormous depth of the lake.

Nor would it say anything about the sediment on its bottom, which could hold vital clues.

And kerosene contamination could skew the samples, he feared. In the last stretch of drilling, the Russians used a more environmentally-friendly antifreeze, freon.

Jean Jouzel, a scientist at France's Atomic Energy Commission (CEA), said he had "reservations" about the Vostok project and dismissed claims from Russia that the breakthrough would give insights into climate change through ancient bubbles of carbon dioxide (CO2) stored in the ice.

Deep coring of Antarctic ice has already provided historical data on stored CO2.

Jouzel said French experts had previously taken part in the drilling at Vostok with the Russians.

However, they and the Russians decided to put the project on hold, in the early days of the last decade, out of pollution concerns when the drill bit was just 120 metres (390 feet) from the lake ceiling.

Siegert said he would shortly lead a team to drill into another subglacial lake in Antarctica called Lake Ellsworth, using a different technique called hot-water drilling.

Under this, water heated to 90 degrees Celsius (194 degrees Fahrenheit) is used to melt ice, whose water is then filtered and heated in turn, thus acting as a drill.

It means that access is kept as clean as possible in the arduous working conditions of Antarctica, although once the hole is opened, scientists only have a day or so to recover samples before it freezes over, Siegert said.

Apple's iPhone hot but Android handsets 'on fire'

(AFP) - An outbreak of iPhone fever made Apple the hottest smartphone maker worldwide at the end of 2011 but handsets powered by Google's Android software were shaping up as true winners in the market.

Worldwide shipments of smartphones soared 54.7 percent in the final three months of 2011 from the same period a year earlier, with California-based Apple making the most popular models, according to an IDC report released this week.

Smartphone makers shipped 157.8 million units in the fourth quarter of 2011, compared to 102 million in the same period the prior year, IDC reported.

A total of 491.4 million smartphones were shipped during the year, up a "strong 61.3 percent" from the 304.7 million units in 2010, according to IDC.

Apple had a 23.5 percent share of the global smartphone market, followed by Samsung and Nokia with 22.8 percent and 12.4 percent respectively.

While Apple tightly controls iPhone hardware and software, Google makes the Android mobile device operating system available free to smartphone manufacturers who have been building it into ranks of handsets.

Android and iPhone smartphones accounted for slightly more than 90 percent of US smartphone sales in the fourth quarter of 2011, industry-tracker NPD Group reported.

Android commanded 48

percent of the market compared to Apple's 43 percent, according to NPD.

Apple sold 37.04 million iPhones in the quarter which ended on December 31, giving it a market share of 8.7 percent.

Nokia remained king, shipping 113.5 million mobile phones in the final quarter of the year to claim nearly 27 percent of the market.

Samsung was second with 22.8 percent of the market, or 97.6 million handsets shipped.

Nokia and Canadian BlackBerry maker Research In Motion saw shipments drop by 30.6 percent and 11 percent, respectively.

Nokia hopes to reverse the losing trend with a new line of smartphones based on mobile gadget software crafted by US technology colossus Microsoft.

A total of 427.4 million mobile phones were shipped in the final months of 2011 in a 6.1 percent increase from the same quarter a year earlier, IDC said.

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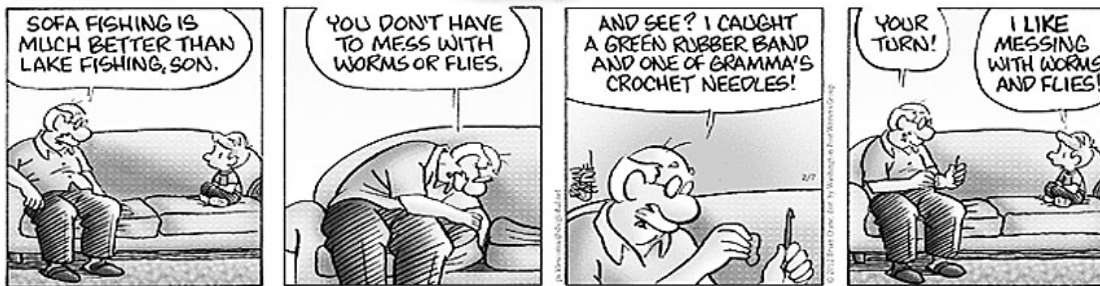
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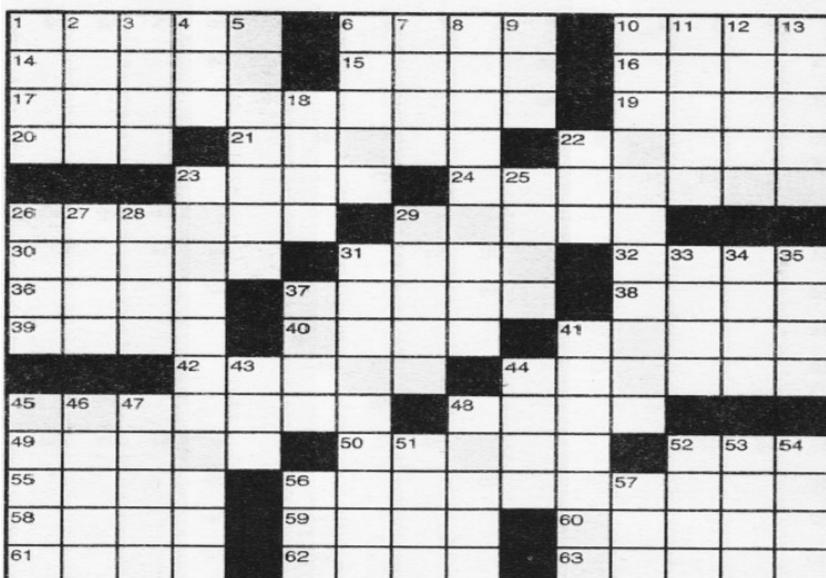
ACROSS

1. Where Elvis was last seen
6. Insignificant one
10. Romantic tale
14. Slip-up
15. Impulse
16. Dog in "The Thin Man"
17. Droned "Revolution" phrase
19. WWI battle site river
20. ___ Plains
21. Pacific defense pact (1954-1977): abbr.
22. Lifeless
23. Retainers
24. Fixes an old skirt
26. Loser's place?
29. Altar plate
30. Distant
31. Scream and shout
32. It's right on a Madrid map
36. Bar order
37. Clear the windshield, in January
38. African antelope
39. Plead "not guilty"
40. To be, in Toulouse
41. Downy duck
42. Atomic bombs
44. Nikes, for short
45. Pep up
48. Lawyers: abbr.
49. Flora and ___
50. Princeton mascot
52. Jack of "Barney Miller"
55. Formal ceremony

56. ___ hole (golf-course bar)
58. Constantly
59. Word on a birth announcement
60. Universally accepted principle
61. Army food
62. Dill herb
63. Heads: Fr.

DOWN

1. Button on a cell phone
2. Accurate
3. "Empty ___" (Ivory Joe Hunter song)
4. Bad guys grouping
5. Pretentious roll-call response
6. Albacores
7. Court decree
8. Denseness
9. Shirt worn with shorts
10. Gaslit era
11. City that armed Germany
12. Cubic measure
13. Little pastries
18. Sax-player's need
22. Dot in the Seine
23. Sutter's Mill gold diggers
25. Small: suffix
26. Before paper or piper
27. Fencing blade
28. James of "Rollerball"
29. Skating competition division
31. Learner's staying power
33. After club or baking
34. Arduous journey
35. Antony's loan request
37. Deceive a hockey opponent
41. Importune
43. Grape: Lat.
44. Editor's notation
45. Stephanie Zimbalist's dad
46. Gullible
47. Old instruments
48. Maxwell Smart, e.g.
51. Memo opener
52. Agitated state
53. Sioux Indian
54. Electric units
56. Sixers' gp.
57. River in England

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Care Center
Tel: 5696910

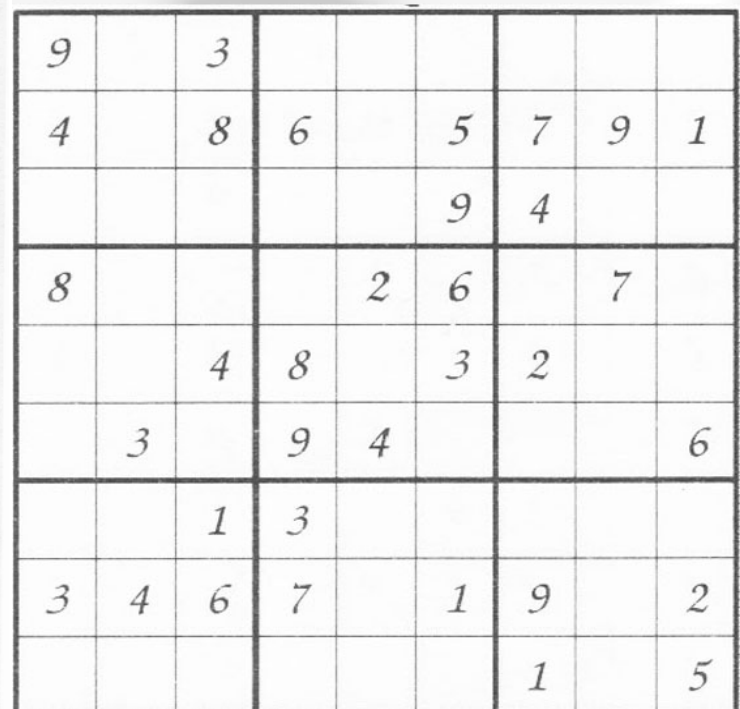
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EMERGENCY
Telephone 911
POLICE HDQS
Telephone 100

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582-5447
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professional taxi services
Tel. 588-0035

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Sudoku



SOLUTION

5	8	1	8	9	7	6	2	4
2	8	6	1	5	2	9	7	4
4	7	9	2	6	8	1	5	3
9	1	8	2	7	6	5	4	3
6	5	2	9	1	8	7	4	3
7	4	9	2	5	6	1	8	3
8	9	7	6	8	2	4	5	1
1	6	2	5	9	8	7	4	3
8	2	5	7	1	9	6	3	4

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

Finance

Talk of Greece eurozone exit strategy rears its head

BRUSSELS (AFP) - The head of the European Union executive was forced yesterday to try and quell mounting suggestions that it might be cheaper and easier for the eurozone to cut Greece adrift.

A Greek exit from the eurozone now would be less risky than if it had happened in early-2010 when the scale of its debt crisis first became apparent, Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte told Netherlands public radio as bailout talks in Athens went to the wire.

"There is less risk now," Rutte told an increasingly eurosceptic Dutch audience.

"It is in our interest that Greece remain -- and to achieve that it must do all it has promised to do... but if that does not work out, then we are stronger now than a year and a half ago," he added.

Rutte was expressing sympathy for the view put forward by a senior European Commissioner, Dutchwoman Neelie Kroes.

She told a Dutch newspaper she was not in favour of

Athens going back to the drachma, but said a Greek departure from the monetary union would not be a disaster.

"It is not a train crash if someone leaves the eurozone," the EU commissioner for the digital economy told De Volkskrant newspaper.

Greece's EU fisheries commissioner Maria Damanaki had already told Greek newspaper To Vima that fallback "planning" for a Greece exit was under way at eurozone level.

Dutch Finance Minister Jan Kees De Jager has also outlined on radio the argument, backed by independent analysts, that eurozone countries can now ring-fence their currency zone.

The line goes that governments, aided by the IMF pledges of support, have done enough through reinforcing fiscal discipline and the creation of financial firewalls to stop borrowing costs rising off the scale.

This has been borne out by a succession of successful debt

auctions in recent weeks for Italy and Spain, the big worries should contagion from Greece seep across borders once more.

"This is a big, big change on a year ago," the head of the European Policy Centre, Hans Martens, recently told AFP.

Even Greece leaving the eurozone ultimately now seems to be factored in as a bearable scenario.

Greece leaving the eurozone now -- that wouldn't destroy anything, although I still don't think it will even come to that," he said.

In Paris on Monday for talks with French President Nicolas Sarkozy, German Chancellor Angela Merkel ramped up the pressure on Athens, warning that Greece would receive no more EU aid until Athens reaches a deal with the EU, European Central Bank (ECB) and IMF on more spending cuts and reforms.

Sarkozy and Merkel publicly broached the idea of a Greek exit in November, suggesting a public rejection of bailout terms would be tantamount to rejecting the euro, and that the single currency would continue without Greece.



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Thousands protest Madrid crisis spending cuts

MADRID (AFP) - Thousands of firemen, nurses and other public sector workers protested noisily in Madrid yesterday against crisis spending cuts which they say threaten crucial services in and around the Spanish capital.

Several thousand protestors filled an avenue in the center of the city, sounding horns and drums, waving flags and yelling "Public services are not for sale!"

They were protesting the conservative regional government's decision to extend their working hours and cut sickness benefits for public sector workers, some of whom earn little more than 1,000 euros a month (1,300 dollars).

They also warned that the spending cuts -- part of nationwide efforts under a new conservative Spanish government

to strengthen public finances -- were undermining social care and emergency services.

"The hospitals are running at half capacity because there are not enough staff," said Dolores Escrivano, 57, a nursing auxiliary, who demonstrated wearing the blue vest of her CSIT union.

The UGT, one of the major unions that organised the protest, says thousands of jobs are under threat across the public sector in Madrid.

Protestors complained that retiring workers are not being replaced and replacements are not being hired to cover for regular workers when they are on holiday, resulting in poorer service in social services, schools and hospitals.

Among the marchers were scores of Madrid firemen in their shiny helmets and black overalls.

The protest march massed in an avenue near Madrid's Prado museum before setting off for the Puerta del Sol, the central square that has been a focal point for a wave of social protests since May last year.

Spain emerged only at the start of 2010 from an 18-month recession triggered by a global financial crisis and a property bubble collapse that destroyed millions of jobs and left behind huge bad loans and debts.

The country's jobless total hit 5.27 million people at the end of 2011, pushing the unemployment rate to 22.85 percent, the highest level among members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Bernanke repeats vow to shield U.S. from Europe fallout

WASHINGTON - Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke yesterday renewed a pledge to prevent Europe's financial crisis from damaging the U.S. economy in testimony before Congress that mirrored remarks he made last week.

"We are in frequent contact with European authorities, and we will continue to monitor the situation closely and take every available step to protect the U.S. financial system and the economy," Bernanke said

in remarks prepared for delivery to the Senate Budget Committee.

The Fed chairman maintained a cautious tone on the U.S. outlook and did not refer to surprisingly strong U.S. jobs data released on Friday.

"We still have a long way to go before the labor market can be said to be operating normally," he said, employing language identical to remarks delivered on Thursday before the House budget panel.

Glencore, Xstrata announce blockbuster merger

ZURICH (AFP) - Raw materials giant Glencore and mining firm Xstrata announced a vast merger yesterday, creating a \$90 billion (69 billion euro) group and heralding a new powerhouse in the global commodities industry.

The bid by Glencore, uniting the two Swiss-based groups as Glencore Xstrata International, will give birth to a company with revenues of some \$209 billion and put it among the world's top mining groups, behind BHP Billiton, Vale and Rio Tinto.

"A merger between Glencore and Xstrata offers a unique opportunity to create a new business model in our industry to respond to a changing environment," Xstrata chief executive Mick Davis said.

His Glencore counterpart Ivan Glasenberg said the deal would lead to greater security of supply and a broader range of products and services for customers.

The two companies, based in Baar and Zug respectively, had been in talks over a possible deal since 2006. The new group will have a combined

equity market value of \$90 billion.

Some Xstrata shareholders, however, indicated they would vote against the merger, the Swiss news agency SDA-ATS reported.


Standard Life Investments, a substantial Xstrata shareholder, announced it would vote against it, saying it "substantially undervalues" the assets of Xstrata and its ability to generate profits in the future.

British fund manager Schroders also said it would vote against the transaction unless the terms are improved.

Glencore is offering 2.8 of its shares for each Xstrata share held, representing a 15.2-percent premium over the closing share price on Wednesday, the day before Xstrata's announcement that it was in discussions with Glencore.

The deal on this basis is valued at nearly \$62 billion.

The new company is expected to increase production by 11 percent annually to 2015 and have a significant presence in African copper mines as well as in Kazakhstan and South America.

				
Current as of: 02/07/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.76	1.78	1.80
Britain	GBP	2.75	2.80	2.86
Switzerland	CHF	193.07	193.79	194.59
Netherlands	EUR	231.44	233.55	235.90
Sweden	SEK	25.49	26.21	27.01
Denmark	DKK	30.46	31.18	31.98
Norway	NOK	29.67	30.39	31.19
Japan	JPY	229.90	231.99	234.33
(per 10,000)				
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YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

PAPA	SCALE	MELT
ARID	ERROR	ALOE
RARE	CATAMARANS	
ELA	TOME	IRENES
	TARNS	ONES
DELED	GET	OBI
MOSES	FALSE	CEO
ASHE	ERE	PEEN
LEI	SHRED	SEATS
ESP	OAR	SWANS
	AWRY	SHILL
DIMMED	STAG	IAN
ICEBREAKER	INGE	
MEAL	STARK	SEEN
ERNE	TETES	TREE

Enjoy Aruba's Carnaval



Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up

and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples.



Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,



high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.

Haute Cuisine in Palm Beach? Visit Amuse Restaurant



Patrick and Yvette welcome you

Our taste testers at THE MORNING NEWS have just enjoyed the most amazing, amusing dining experience, conveniently located in Palm Beach, in a cozy, attractive bistro at the Playa Linda Resort. Chef Patrick and his wife Yvette welcome you to Amuse, their French inspired bistro,



where they share their passion for fine food and the classic art of cooking, enhances with a dash of Caribbean flare.

Patrick has opened his own place after years of establishing the reputation of some of Aruba's finest restaurants. He is adamant about creating his sauces and specialties strictly from scratch; nothing is out of the box or can and all ingredients are fresh - he even grows his own herbs and spices, and believe it or not, churns his own fresh made ice cream daily! Imagine a sumptuous desert of the creamiest

Red Wine Ice Cream served up with a rich, moist, brownie, or Pineapple Carpaccio with fresh churned Cinnamon Ice Cream, and you have a finish for your dinner that will have you returning again the next day to try

one of his other remarkable specialties.

Patrick is well aware that a memorable meal is a feast for all the senses, and his dishes are as pleasing to the eye as they are to the palate and your wallet. One would expect to pay very high prices for such effort, but their menu is quite reasonably priced. Amuse also provides the option of selecting a dish in main course or half plate, appetizer size, which is very nice if you would prefer to taste a wide sample of their delectable offerings. The restaurant also prides itself on an excellent wine cellar to provide the perfect pairing for the gourmet food. Menus change to some degree with the seasons, taking advantage of what is fresh and best for the time of year.

Amuse is named for the tradition of an "amuse-bouche" a chef's selection for something special to tantalize the taste buds, and patrons will find it a most appropriate moniker, as Patrick's exceptional sauces and artful presentation will provide a most memorable meal.

Amuse is open daily for dinner from 5:30 to 10:30 PM.

However, if wishing to dine at peak hours, Yvette recommends calling 586-9949 for reservations well ahead; they are happy to take walk-ins anytime before 7:30 PM.

The charming logistics of the bistro allows patrons to enjoy the al fresco ambiance of a Parisian sidewalk café while still being protected from the weather; it is rightfully becoming quite a popular place to savor fine dining combined with Aruba's tropical ambiance.



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SPORTS

New York celebrates Super Bowl Champion Giants



New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning, right, and defense end Justin Tuck, in striped sweater flank Gov. Cuomo and Mayor Bloomberg on float.

NEW YORK - Fans lined the streets of Manhattan to congratulate the Giants, who came from behind in the fourth quarter to beat the New England Patriots, 21-17 Sunday in Super Bowl XLVI in Indianapolis, and claimed the team's second NFL championship ring in four years.

Super Bowl MVP Eli Manning and defensive lineman Justin Tuck headlined the main float with the Vince Lombardi Trophy, which the Giants captured for a fourth time with a 21-17 victory over New England on Sunday in Indianapolis.

Head coach Tom Coughlin, general manager Jerry Reese and co-owners John Mara and Steve Tisch were also part of the main float that included

New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg and New York governor Andrew Cuomo.

The parade ended at City Hall Plaza, where Bloomberg, after declaring the city the "Big Blue Apple," presented the Giants with keys to the city.

More than 1 million people were estimated to have lined the confetti-strewn parade route.

1950 US World Cup footballer Keough dies

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Harry Keough, a member of the US football team that stunned England at the 1950 World Cup, died Tuesday at the age of 84, a US Soccer spokesman confirmed.

US Soccer spokesman Michael Kammarman said the federation had learned from Keough's family that he died at his home in St. Louis, Missouri.

Keough was among five players from St. Louis on the US team that beat England 1-0 at the 1950 World Cup in Brazil -- a victory considered

by some to be the greatest upset in football history.

A defender, Keough won 19 caps and scored one goal in his international career. He started all three matches for the United States at the 1950 World Cup and captained the side in their opener against Spain.

Keough, who had returned to his job as a postman after returning from the 1950 World Cup, became the coach of the St. Louis University football team in 1967 and guided St. Louis to five NCAA collegiate titles.

Football: Cruyff blocks Van Gaal appointment

AMSTERDAM (AFP) - Ajax legend and board member Johan Cruyff on Tuesday won his battle before an Amsterdam court to block the appointment of Louis van Gaal as general manager of the Dutch club, the ANP agency reported.

The appointment had been made by the club's Council of Commissioners without consulting Cruyff, who is one of the five board members.

Cruyff, who has never been able to hide his dislike of his countryman, took legal action and was backed by 15 coaches from the club's training centre.

Cruyff had restructured the club in recent years by giving more power to former players such as Frank De Boer and Dennis Bergkamp, who are coaches, Danny Blind who is

sporting director and Wim Jonk responsible for training.

"The coaches from the training centre are all former club players. I've always been 200percent behind this project and I maintain that it's very important for the club," said Cruyff, who feared that Van Gaal would dismantle his work.

Van Gaal, 60, had been due to work alongside Blind and commercial director Martin Sturkenboom as part of a new leadership structure at the home of the four-time European champions.

The former Bayern Munich coach managed Ajax between 1991 and 1997, notably leading them to the Champions League title in 1995, and was sporting director from 2003 to 2004.

Football: FIFA makes donation to families of Egyptian victims

GENEVA (AFP) - FIFA called on the global football community to assist Tuesday and said it will donate \$250,000 to the families of the victims of last week's riot at a football match which resulted in 74 deaths.

The victims died when violence erupted following the match between Al Masry and Al Ahly in Port Said.

World football's governing body said in a statement the sum would be paid into a charity account opened by Al Ahly

on Sunday.

"I stated after the tragedy that this day was a black day for football," said FIFA President Sepp Blatter.

"I'm still very shocked by what happened. Many of the victims were so young. They were also a crucial support for their families, who now need help. "The football community, including FIFA, must assist its Egyptian brothers and sisters."

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NBA: Knicks beat Jazz without grieving Stoudemire

NEW YORK (AFP) - The New York Knicks beat Utah 99-88 on Monday despite the absence of grieving Amare Stoudemire and an injury to Carmelo Anthony.

Stoudemire left the team Monday to be with his family in Florida, where his elder brother Hazell was killed in a road accident early in the day.

The Knicks held a moment of silence for Hazell Stoudemire before the game, and coach Mike D'Antoni said it wasn't yet certain when Amare Stoudemire, the team's second-leading scorer would return.

"I know he's very close to his brother," D'Antoni said. "So my heart's out for him. He cherishes his family. He does a great job of maintaining all relationships. This is a trying

moment for him."

The Knicks lost forward Anthony midway through the first quarter to a right groin strain.

It's just the latest injury Anthony has dealt with in the lockout-shortened season, including a sprained right ankle and injuries to his left wrist and right thumb.

Jeremy Lin led the Knicks with 28 points and eight assists. Steve Novak chipped in 19 points and Jared Jeffries added 13 for New York.

NBA: 76ers beat Lakers to spoil Bryant's milestone night

PHILADELPHIA (AFP) - Kobe Bryant passed former teammate Shaquille O'Neal for fifth on the NBA's all-time scoring list Monday but Philadelphia spoiled the moment with a 95-90 victory over Bryant's Los Angeles Lakers.

Bryant came into the game with 28,573 career points and needing 24 points to move past O'Neal for fifth on the career list.

He scored 24 in the first half, draining a long-range jump shot with just over five minutes remaining in the second quarter to get to 24 points for the night.

He got a hug from teammate Derek Fisher, but the

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Lakers superstar scored just four points in the second half in the face of aggressive 76ers defence.

O'Neal, who won three titles with Bryant in nine seasons they played together for the Lakers, retired last season with a total of 28,596 points in his 19-year NBA career. He also played for Orlando, Miami, Phoenix, Cleveland and Boston.

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, with 38,387 points, leads the NBA's career scoring list, followed by Karl Malone (36,928), Michael Jordan (32,292) and Wilt Chamberlain (31,419).

Lakers coach Mike Brown said Monday he thought Bryant, a 16-year NBA veteran, could reach the top of the list before he's done.

"It might be tough for him to pass Kareem, but he

should get close. He should catch Malone," Brown said after the Lakers practiced on Monday. Brown wasn't on the sideline for the game as he served a one-game suspension for bumping a game official in the Lakers' loss at Utah on Saturday.

With Bryant leading the way the Lakers led 50-46 at halftime, but the 76ers edged ahead in the third quarter.

Sixers reserve Lou Williams played a key role, scoring 14 of his 24 points in the fourth quarter as Philadelphia improved to 13-3 at home.

"They just came after him immediately," John Kuester - standing in for Brown -- said of Bryant's inability to score in the second half.

"To Kobe's credit, what he did was try to get everybody involved. We had some great looks.

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Cycling: Contador vows to pursue career despite doping ban

PINTO (AFP) - A visibly indignant two-time Tour de France champion Alberto Contador said on Tuesday he "totally disagreed" with his two-year doping ban but vowed to pursue his career.

Speaking for the first time since the Court of Arbitration for Sport's sanction handed down on Monday, the 29-year-old Spaniard said he had lived through torment.

"I cannot understand the sanction that has been imposed on me," the cyclist told a news conference at a hotel in his hometown of Pinto just south of Madrid.

"As for the decision, I to-



tally disagree," he said, wearing a dark jacket and a white shirt unbuttoned at the collar.

"I am going to continue cycling. I am going to continue practicing it cleanly, the way I have my entire life. My mood right now is not the best but I know this will make me stronger in the future."

Contador said he had committed no crime and yet had been hit with the heaviest penalty of a two year ban.

"Anyone who reads the decision will see clearly that I did not take drugs," he said.

He said his lawyers were looking into a possible appeal.

"There have been speculations, leaks, it is been a real torment. But the hardest thing has been to see my family, the suffering they have had, my wife, for what they have accused me of," Contador said.

"And it is for something that goes against everything that has been instilled in me."

The Spaniard said he even gave evidence under polygraph -- popularly known as a lie detector. "That is five hours sitting in a chair answering questions like a real criminal."

Contador thanked his fans and his sponsor for their sup-

port, after Saxo Bank chief Bjarne Riis told the news conference he backed the cyclist "100 percent" because he clearly did not deliberately take drugs.

He was repeatedly applauded by the crowd.

Considered the most gifted racer of his generation, Contador was handed a two-year ban by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) following a positive test for the banned substance clenbuterol.

Backdated to August 2010, when he announced the news of his positive test weeks after his third yellow jersey triumph, the ban means Contador can return to competition on August 6, 2012.

As well as ruling him out of this year's Tour de France and the Olympic Games in London, he will be stripped, among other wins, of his 2010 yellow jersey which will now be handed to runner-up Andy Schleck of Luxembourg.

His determination to carry on means he may compete at the Tour of Spain in September, a race Contador won in 2008 when he also won the Giro d'Italia.

Two months after his positive test, the Spaniard, claiming he was the victim of a contaminated steak eaten during the Tour de France, and had said he would consider quitting if banned.

If he is to find any kind of succour from the CAS decision, it is the fact doping experts believe he did not ingest clenbuterol intentionally. They deemed the Spaniard was likely a victim of a contaminated food supplement.

Boxing: Lewis warns Haye over Klitschko return



David Haye

LONDON (AFP) - Lennox Lewis has warned David Haye against returning to the ring with a fight against either of the Klitschko brothers.

Haye lost his WBA heavyweight title to WBO and IBF champion Wladimir Klitschko last year with a lacklustre points defeat which he partly blamed on a broken little toe.

The Londoner retired after the defeat but has since vowed to return -- but only to fight Wladimir or his brother Vitali, who holds the WBC belt.

But Lewis, Britain's previous world heavyweight champion, said Haye ought to have two warm-up fights first.

"David should come out of retirement," said Lewis, speaking at the Laureus Awards in London on Monday.

"He should come back, but he should not think about the

Klitschkos right now.

"There is a lot of money for him on the table and that is important for any fighter. All he has to do it is jump in there against one of the Klitschkos and take it, but he should have a couple of different fights first.

Haye is being made for a fight against the 40-year-old Vitali, who instead is taking on unheralded Londoner Dereck Chisora, 28.

Lewis, the last man to beat Vitali nine years ago, said Chisora could stage a shock when he fights the Ukrainian in Munich on February 18 even though the challenge has lost his last two fights.

"Vitali is very good but Chisora has a chance," said Lewis. "He is a heavyweight. All it takes is one punch on the chin to win.

"I always say if you walk into the ring, you have to get wet. If he (Klitschko) is in the fight, in the ring, and he gets punched, there is a chance that he might get hurt or knocked out. It will be an interesting fight."

Haye has accused the Klitschkos of making the heavyweight division boring.

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